

## 25.—Number of Electricity Meters in use, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1915-1928.

Fiscal Years.		Number.	Fiscal Years.		Number.
1915		505,597	1922		945,599
1916		517,629	1923		1,046,831
1917		594,737	1924		1,094,639
1918		661,403	1925		1,165,664
1919		717,776	1926		1,240,752
1920		743,468	1927		1,314,428
1921		860,379	1928		1,412,521

## 26.—Number of Gas Meters in use, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1916-1928.

Fiscal Years.	Manufactured Gas.	Natural Gas.	Acetylene.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1916	199,514	67,040	-	267,454
1917	314,915	55,697	-	370,612
1918	325,244	88,795	-	414,039
1919	336,388	91,056	-	427,444
1920	350,777	85,004	513	436,294
1921	361,479	98,494	577	460,550
1922	366,840	101,785	430	469,055
1923	379,459	102,007	438	481,904
1924	390,548	105,804	425	496,777
1925	405,471	106,861	404	512,736
1926	443,067	85,752	425	529,244
1927	462,496	90,302	358	553,156
1928	482,076	98,915	357	581,348

## 27.—Number of Cubic Feet of Gas sold in Canada, fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1920-28.

Fiscal Years.	Carburetted Water.	Coal Gas.	Coke Oven Gas.	Natural Gas.	Acetylene Gas.	Total.
	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.	cu. ft.
1920	4,487,511,639	6,787,370,045	-	17,117,100,328	1,669,650	28,393,651,662
1921	5,331,442,415	7,096,221,745	-	-	-	-
1922	4,668,391,857	8,433,860,903	-	11,289,592,401	1,005,000	24,392,850,161
1923	6,632,961,609	7,637,113,997	132,000	12,238,836,883	1,165,305	26,510,207,884
1924	5,214,843,260	8,042,882,100	3,183,600	14,866,618,700	1,194,050	28,128,726,149
1925	5,254,802,700	7,824,192,540	91,628,300	10,525,604,563	1,266,109	23,697,494,212
1926	4,835,613,326	8,149,894,391	1,449,794,500	13,004,469,776	1,210,894	27,440,982,887
1927	5,804,508,468	8,405,556,329	1,049,975,000	17,863,365,700	1,247,108	33,124,650,905
1928	6,883,634,608	7,488,964,653	1,680,237,100	20,365,048,768	1,325,510	36,419,210,634

## Section 7.—Census of Wholesale and Retail Trading Establishments.

The distribution of commodities through the operation of wholesale and retail trading establishments is generally recognized as the least thoroughly explored department of the economic life of those nations whose advanced civilizations and varied needs make the business of supplying those needs through the mechanism of distribution an intricate and complicated process—a process of which all too little is generally known.

Ever since the creation of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1918 it has been one of the objects of the Bureau to fill up this gap in the national statistics, and to blaze the trail for other countries in this connection. The matter is referred to in the first Annual Report of the Dominion Statistician for 1919, and at the census of 1921 instructions were given to the census enumerators to collect on a special schedule a list of all individuals, partnerships, joint stock companies, etc., engaged in whole-